The Dying Words and Confeſſion of

John Patrick and Luke Stanley,

Who were executed near *Wincheſter*, on *Saturday*, *July* 31, 1790,

For HORSE-STEALING.

THESE unfortunate Men were tried at the laſt Aſſizes held at Wincheſter, before Mr. Juſtice Groſe, on two Indictments for Horſe-ſtealing—one for ſtealing a black Mare, with Foal, from a Field in the Pariſh of Cucklington, in the County of Somerſet, the Property of John Read—the other for ſtealing a brown Mare from a Common in the Pariſh of Silton, Dorſet, the Property of Michael Perman. They were on the cleareſt Evidence found guilty, and from the Notoriety of their Character, the Judge left them both for Execution.

Patrick and Stanley were both born in ſome Part of Dorſetſhire, and are Brothers by the Mother's Side. They belonged to the Gypſy Tribe, and are reported to be nearly related to the Perſon uſually ſtyled King of the Gypſies.

While they were under Sentence, they delivered a Liſt of the Horſes, Sheep, &c. which they had ſtolen from different Perſons in the Weſt of England, but principally in Dorſet and Somerſet, and ſome few in Hants, by which it appears that they had carried on their Depredations for the laſt ſeven Years with little Interruption.

The following is an Account of the Articles which they confeſſed to have ſtolen, viz.

72 Horſes
19 Sheep
58 Stocks of Bees
77 Aſſes

A large Quantity of Broad and Narrow Cloth, to the Amount of 100l. at Shroton Fair.

They alſo robbed 22 different Shops, beſides picking Pockets at Fairs, &c.

Notwithſtanding the Number and Enormity of their Crimes, they were both very young Men, Patrick being 22, and Stanley only 19 Years of Age.

About eleven o'clock they were brought out of the Gaol, and placed in a Cart, and drawn to the Place of Execution. They were attended by the Chaplain of the Priſon; and, after a ſhort Time ſpent in Acts of Devotion, they were launched into Eternity; they thus paid the Forfeit of their Lives, as the only Atonement in their Power for the frequent Tranſgreſſions of the Laws of their Country.

During the Time they remained in Priſon after Condemnation, and at the Place of Execution, they behaved in a very penitent and decent Manner, and appeared to be ſenſible of the awful Change they were about to experience.

Their unfortunate Mother viſited them while they were under Sentence—the Diſtreſs attending this Interview it is impoſſible to deſcribe.

May the untimely Death of theſe two young Men prove a Leſſon, to deter others from following the ſame deſtructive Path! for let it be remembered, that though Injuſtice may for a Time be attended with Succeſs, yet, ſooner or later, Puniſhment will follow. Let therefore this diſgraceful Cataſtrophe ſerve as a Memento, to remind thoſe who have erred, to do ſo no more—Then will not theſe Men have died in vain.